STYLOID PROCESS IN TONSILLECTOMY

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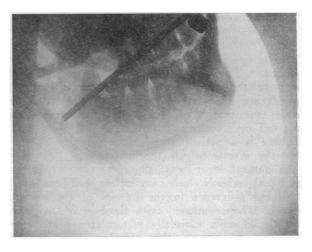
During the past five years two cases of elongated styloid processes, presenting in the tonsillar fossæ, have come under my observation. In neither of the cases was the diagnosis made before tonsillectomy. In the first case inspection of the fossa after uncomplicated tonsillectomy showed a sharp prominence covered with muscular tissue extending from above downwards rather close to the anterior pillar. In the second case a snare wire was placed around the process and an X-ray picture taken with the wire hanging from the process. Convalescence was uncomplicated in both cases.

I have found fourteen cases in the literature. Ten were discovered previous to operation and four on account of difficulty in the operative procedures. The prominence was removed with bone forceps in four cases. The characteristic movements that the styloid process, alone of the possible bones in this position, possesses are first that it moves with rotation of head, and second that it moves with nodding of the head.

In the cases discovered before operation there were exaggerated symptoms of chronic tonsillitis. In these cases part of the process has been removed with bone forceps. Other cases have caused difficulties in instrumentation. These cases deserve publication, as it is not commonly known that the styloid process can be so long.



CASE I-Elongated styloid process.



CASE II—Taken fifteen minutes after uncomplicated tonsillectomy. Wire snare hanging suspended from tip of styloid process in base of tonsillar fossa.



Normal Styloid Process.

WALTER LINDLEY, M. D.

(Born Monrovia, Indiana, January 13, 1852 Died Los Angeles, January 24, 1922)

Dr. Walter Lindley was one of the most widely known and most beloved physicians of the West. He was educated in Minneapolis and received his Doctor of Medicine degree from the Long Island College of Brooklyn, N. Y., and subsequently attended Keen's School of Anatomy, Philadelphia. He had been engaged in practice in California since 1875. During that time he was an outstanding figure in the medical world and became influential in the civic and economic affairs of the State. He had held all of the positions of honor that could be given to any member of his profession in California, and he was also a member and a director of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. A number of banks and trust companies were honored by his membership on their boards of directors, and he was noted for his friendship and assistance to young men in all walks of life during the period when they were striving to get started in their careers.

Dr. Lindley leaves a widow, three daughters and one son, Francis Haynes Lindley, together with a host of warm personal friends who mourn his passing.